

THE LYRICAL CHARACTER IN HALIMA KHUDOYBERDIYOVA'S POEM

"JUST LIKE THAT"

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In poetry, emotions give brilliance to the verse and breathe life into words. For feelings to be truly reflected in poetry, the poet must either be in that emotional state or have passed through it. "A poem is the fruit of the poet's thoughts and experiences." This is clearly evident in the works of Halima Khudoyberdiyeva, who, through her deep reflections, gives life to words. In reality, a poet does not choose a theme-the theme finds the poet.

In Khudoyberdiyeva's poetry, we find not only the expression of her personal emotions but also her artistic and aesthetic interpretation of societal issues, which showcases her individual talent. The fluency of language, expressive devices, and aesthetic richness are vividly demonstrated in her poem "Shunchaki" ("Just Like That"):

I don't just feel like thinking,
Let thought intoxicate like wine.
I don't just feel like singing,
If my vocal cords can bear, that's fine.

Halima Khudoyberdiyeva imbues every image with specific meaning and conveys the lyrical character's inability to engage superficially with emotions or experiences. The word "shunchaki" (just like that) is repeated 11 times in the poem, serving as a structural and semantic anchor that amplifies the meaning of each stanza. For the poet, every action must be done with sincerity-even thinking must bring about intoxication, and singing must be done with such intensity that her soul is ready to give itself to the melody.

When a tiny infant falls into your arms,
What joy is there in loving "just like that"?
Better to scream, kiss, even bite
We, too, hurt in childhood's delight.
To be loved "just like that"-a cursed fate,
A love incomplete, a joy second-rate.

My heart is made for deeper flame-

Let me burn in love, then die with no shame.

Here, the poet transitions into a deep expression of feelings. While many actions can be performed "just like that", love cannot. As she rightly asserts, to be loved "just like that" is a misfortune. The lyrical character prefers loving and being loved over merely existing. They would rather burn in love than continue living without it. Khudoyberdiyeva thus elevates love to the pinnacle of human emotions. "If there is no love in the heart, life itself becomes greater than loving. But for those with a passionate soul, loving is more precious than living."

Don't just listen to the melody-translate it,

Feel each note of the tune you hear.

That spring on the mountain is no mere stream

It's my tears, shed by love's seer.

Khudoyberdiyeva breathes life into the lyrical elements of each stanza, drawing the reader into emotional depth. She urges not to listen passively, but to translate the melody, to feel what is being expressed. The poem addresses everyday experiences, revealing how closely they are interwoven with the essence of human existence. The poet emphasizes that one must live and feel those emotions wholly and sincerely.

She masterfully uses antonyms like laughter and tears to enhance the poetic narrative. A reader might be moved to tears by these verses. "Just as spirit and soul are vital to a poet, so too are they essential to the poetry analyst." The lyrical character expresses that even their laughter now is a protest-one that startles the oblivious-and that false, hollow laughter no longer suits them. Instead of shallow weeping, the poet expresses a desire to cry with such sincerity that words become unnecessary, and pain pours forth, drenching even the driest hearts.

"To endure the fate of a poet, to live worthy of its honor and hardship, to remember always that the poet is the conscience, voice, and eye of the nation-this is no easy task. A poet is a being of talent, thought, and suffering. Just as it is impossible to define poetry in exact terms, it is equally difficult to encapsulate the essence of being a poet. Only those who have experienced poetic anguish and crafted jewels from words can truly understand."

The lyrical character is, in fact, Halima Khudoyberdiyeva herself. This is evident from the poem's layers of meaning and especially from its final quatrain:

To write "just like that" does not satisfy my soul,

My hand refuses such shallow control.

I cannot bear writing with no depth or aim

To write "just like that" is a poet's death and shame.

“A profound portrayal of emotion is the key trait that reflects the richness of a lyrical character’s inner world. The lyrical character’s relationship with the surrounding world-be it joyful or painful-manifests as internal experiences and emotional responses.”

This proves that our esteemed poet’s inner world is one of great aesthetic and emotional depth. She refuses to write casually or superficially-doing so is tantamount to death for a true poet. Khudoyberdiyeva's ability to pour her soul into every line is what makes her poetry universally appealing. From the first reading of “Shunchaki”, the reader is struck by her intense passion and poetic power.

References:

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